

WASHINGTON CITY ECHOES

Home again, after an absence of about twelve days. Visited the following congregations, viz.: Terra Alta, West Va., Mason-town, Penna., Pittsburg, Johnstown, Cone-maugh, Meyersdale, Summit Mills, Salisbury, Rosedale, Berlin, Altoona. Gave a gospel talk at each place, (excepting at Masontown, Brother Swinehart's charge; he failed to get my card,) and I am glad to say that at each point our mission received substantial encouragement. In my next I will give the financial results in full. Suffice it to state here that the total cash contributions were sufficient to enable me to "square up" ar-rearages, (or almost so,) when I got home and I wish I could tell you how good it made me feel. And the best part of it is that in all of the charges named, the pastors, I believe without exception, promised to see that monthly contributions would be made for the support of the work, so that we feel much encouraged, and I trust that never again will it be necessary for the missionary to leave his post and go out on such business.

At Johnstown, even before I left, monthly pledges to the amount of \$5.00 were handed in. I feel to praise God for the earnest co-operation of the pastors at each place.

We have written some of those churches which we were not able to visit and already some are responding very favorably in the way of monthly pledges for the future. Let all *help a little* and thus the good work may ever go on unhindered. Remember, dear brethren and sisters, it is *your* work just as much as *mine*, and to that extent that you realize your individual responsibility in this work, to that extent it will prove a success. And let no congregation plead *weakness*; all are able to do something; show which side you are on by doing what you can, tho it be not much.

And I wish to say, too, that I didn't do any "begging;" I simply presented some of the *needs* of the mission and then *gave the people a chance*.

I was sorry not to be able to have a public meeting at Masontown, and yet I came away from there with no small offering, even if I did have to walk four miles with a heavy grip thro the country after dark. "Our disappointments are *His* appointments."

But I am sorry that the national mission work has thus been localized or rather *sectionalized*. It ought not to be so. I hope it will not be so long. There is a better way. Let us pray that it may be unanimously adopted at the next National Conference. How much better it would be to have a systematic plan for giving; then have all sent to one treasury and let the General Board distribute according to the various needs, etc.

And now I wish to thank all the dear brethren and sisters and friends, for all of their kindness shown me during my visit. May the Lord richly bless you all! Our thanks are also due to brother George Copp of Virginia and brother John Hockman for two barrels containing flour, potatoes and apples. Look out for financial report next week.

W. M. LYON.

Church News

Report of Michigan Conference

The tenth annual conference of Michigan was held at Campbell, Oct. 13, 1898. Ministerial meeting the 12.

Meeting opened with devotional services led by J. G. Winey. Address of welcome, Wm. H. Miller. Response, J. H. English. Chair appointed committee on committee, J. H. English, J. D. Solomon, W. H. Miller. On motion it was decided that we elect all officers by ballot.

Report of committee on committees. Credentials: Clinton Henney, F. F. Wolf.

Rules: George Clum, Phoeby Darby, J. D. Solomon.

Resolutions: J. H. English, Wm. H. Miller, Walter Clark.

On motion it was decided that all papers or any other matter pertaining to the work of the conference not on the program shall be handed to the committee on program.

Delegates enrolled: Almena, J. D. Solomon; Bethel, F. J. Wolf, W. Clark; Campbell, Phoeby Darby, Clinton Henney, George Clum, Maud Barker, J. G. Winey; New Troy, J. H. English.

Report of committee on rules:

First, opening speech limited to fifteen minutes.

Second, that there be no personalities.

Third, the speaker must first address the chair and be recognized by the speaker.

Report of last year's conference read and accepted.

Report of State Evangelist made and accepted.

On motion it was decided to pay J. G. Winey \$2.50 for mission work.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional service. On motion it was decided to elect a State Evangelist.

Motion made and supported that we raise money for missions the same as we did last year.

Querie No. 1. Is it consistent with the teachings of the gospel of Christ to use fermented wine at our communion meetings? Led by Walter Clark. Discussion by J. G. Winey. Answer, we ought to use unfermented wine at our communion meetings.

2. What shall we do with our isolated members? J. D. Solomon. Discussion, Brother Renolds. Answer: The isolated members of the Brethren church should be reached by the State Evangelist.

Collection lifted to defray the expenses of the conference. Amount collected \$1.53.

Question drawer led by J. H. English. Report of treasurer of the Mission Board read and accepted. Bethel church, \$7.25; New Troy church, \$10.50; Campbell church, \$13.65; Almena, \$2.00; Amount received, \$33.40.

Sunday-school work taken up and discussed by various persons. Officers elected for the following year as follows: president, Geo. Clum; vice president, J. G. Winey; secretary, W. Clark; treasurer, J. P. Rensch;

statistician, W. O. Bowers; evangelist, W. Clark.

Mission Board: Chairman, J. H. English; secretary, C. L. Henney; treasurer, J. D. Solomon.

Committee on program: J. H. English, Phoeby Darby, Alice Henney.

Executive committee: J. D. Solomon, F. T. Wolf, Geo. Clum.

Motion made and accepted that the Mission Board retire and draw up rules and regulations to govern the work of the Evangelist for the following year.

Executive committee decided to hold the next annual state conference at Bethel.

Report of committee on resolutions:

Resolved, That under the protecting care of a merciful God, we have been permitted to assemble in State Conference. We trust our own aim has been to awaken an interest in the advancement of the cause of Christ.

That as ministers we make a greater effort to study God's word. That we become workmen that needeth not to be ashamed.

That this conference return their sincere thanks to the Campbell church for their kindness shown us while here.

That we as a conference urge loyalty to our institutions, that is our Publishing house, school and mission.

That as we are now about to separate and go to our respective homes may we all lift our hearts in praise to God in whom we serve for the bountiful harvest and blessing received and for the tender care of Jesus our shepherd.

The work of the evangelist for the following year will be: (1) To feed the flock by reading and expounding and preaching the word of God and administering the ordinances of God's house. (2) To organize classes and provide for their care. (3) To be present and have charge of organization of new churches within his district and to ordain officers therein. (4) To assist pastors in the organizing of their work, and by counseling with them in all important work. (5) To see that all charters, deeds, and conveyances of church property in his district conform strictly to the laws and forms of the states or territories of his district. (6) To set in order in every church the things that are wanting. (7) To keep careful record of all his work and the condition of every department of it and report the same to district conference, said record to be kept and report to be made as fully as the district conference may from time to time demand. We further recommend that the district evangelist be under the supervision of and co-operate with the district mission board and that said district evangelist in the discharge of his duties shall exercise no jurisdiction over established pastorates, and that he receive one dollar per day and expenses paid.

On motion it was decided that the S. S. of C. E., also K. C. Society are given a place in our state conference of at least one half day each.

REPORT OF STATE STATISTICIAN FOR 1898

Organizations in this state, 4.

Campbell: Number of members, 75; mem-